[*English*]

Construction of Break Water and Jetty at Car Nicobar

778. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct Break Water and Jetty at Car Nicobar;

(b) if so, the present position of the project; and

(c) the fund allocated for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal for construction of Break Water and Jetty at Car Nicobar is under the consideration of the Government.

(c) Presently, an outlay of Rs. 20.00 lakhs for the project has been provided in the Annual Plan. 1991-92.

Wasteful Government Expenditure

779. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the measures taken so far to bring economic reforms have adversely affected the general public only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware that wasteful expenditure in Government offices continue unabated in the shape of attaching independent staff cars with drivers to individual officers, attaching an officer with senior officer to look after his personal work, withdrawing staff from lower offices to work in their secretariats, providing telephone facilities at the residence of such so-called staff officers, undertaking tours at government expense for private works and furnishing rooms of senior officers etc.;

(d) if so, the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check/eliminate such expenditure forthwith; and

(e) if no steps have been taken/ proposed to be taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The package of macro-economic stabilisation measures and structural reforms in the sphere of trade, industrial and public sectors aim at increasing efficiency and productivity, imparting dynamism to the growth process. The recent trends in the levels of foreign exchange reserves, prices and trade balance indicate that the overall impact of these measures has been favourable. Nevertheless, the Government is fully conscious of the need to protect the interests of the vulnerable sections of the society and thus bring about adjustment with human fact. It would continue its efforts to check the rise in prices and strengthen the Public Distribution System.

(c) to (e). In order to observe economy in expenditure, instructions are issued to all the Ministries/Departments from time to time to avoid wasteful expenditure. The Staff cars with drivers are not earmarked for exclusive use of any officer, as these form a pool and are deployed according to the availability and requirement. There is no provision for providing staff officers to senior officers in the Central Secretariat. The Senior officers are provided with Private Secretary/Principal Private Secretary as per their entitlement to assist the officer in day to day official work. The facility of telephones at the residence is